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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8043
INFO RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 1900
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 2805
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 TOKYO 002913

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR H (T. LONON)
PLEASE PASS TO MAJ SPEROS KOUMPARAKIS, MARINE CORPS
LIAISON, W

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [OREP](#) [AMGT](#) [ASEC](#) [AFIN](#) [KS](#) [JA](#)
SUBJECT: TOKYO COUNTRY CLEARANCE FOR STAFFDEL PLUNKETT
(21-30 OCTOBER 2008)

REF: STATE 111037

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - PLEASE PROTECT ACCORDINGLY.

¶1. (U) Embassy warmly welcomes and grants country clearance for the October 21-30, 2008, visit to Japan by the STAFFDEL led by Ms. Vickie Plunkett and including Ms. Catherine Garman, Mr. David Sienicki, Mr. Paul Arcangeli, Ms. Lynn Williams, Ms. Eryn Robinson, Mr. Thomas Hawley, Ms. Lara Battles, and DoD Escorts USMC Maj. Speros Koumparakis and USN Lt. Lauren Baker.

¶2. (U) Administrative point of contact for the visit is CNFJ Protocol Officer LT Barbara Jonas. She can be reached at:

Office phone: 81-468-16-7600
Local/DSN: 243-7600
Fax/DSN: 243-616
Email: barbara.jonas@fe.navy.mil

Embassy point of contact is Political Officer John Nylin. He can be reached at:

Office phone: (81-3)3224-5344
Home phone: (81-3)3224-6859
Mobile phone: (81-80)1202-8406
Fax: (81-3)3224-5322
E-mail: NylinJD@state.gov (unclassified)

Hotel Reservations

¶3. (U) Tokyo hotel reservations have been made as follows:

21-23 October, ANA Hotel, 4-12-20 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052, Telephone: 011-81-03-3505-1111, Fax: 011-81-03-33505-1155. Cancellation charge 20 percent if day prior. 100 percent the day of. No charge two days prior to.

Confirmation:

¶V. Plunkett - 2865187
¶C. Garman - 2865550
¶L. Williams - 2865552
¶L. Battles - 2870034
Lt Col D. Dabney - 2870030
Major S. Koumparakis - 2865553
LT L. Baker - 2865554
LCDR J. Foret - 2865555

23 October, Yokosuka BOQ, COMFLEACT Yokosuka, BOQ Building 1556, 1 Hon-cho, Yokosuka Kanagawa, Telephone (DSN):

243-7317, Fax (DSN): 243-6616

Confirmation:

¶V. Plunkett - 2700351
¶C. Garman - 270352
¶L. Williams - 270353
¶L. Battles - 270838
Major S. Koumparakis - 270356
LT L. Baker - 270357
LCDR J. Foret - 270358
¶E. Robinson - 270354
¶D. Sienicki - 270355

24-26 October, ANA Hotel, 4-12-20 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo
107-0052, Telephone: 011-81-03-3505-1111, Fax:
011-81-03-33505-1155.

Confirmation:

¶V. Plunkett - 2865188
¶C. Garman - 2865550
¶L. Battles - 2870034
¶L. Williams - 2865552
¶E. Robinson - 2865562
¶D. Sienicki - 2865563
¶E. Wagner - 2873859
Major S. Koumparakis - 2865558
LT L. Baker - 2865569
LCDR J. Foret (24-25 Oct) - 2865561

Airport to Hotel Transportation

¶4. (U) CNFJ will meet and assist at the airport.

Visa

¶5. (U) U.S. citizens entering or transiting Japan on official business must obtain a diplomatic or official visa for that purpose. U.S. citizens traveling with a valid U.S. passport can enter Japan for business or pleasure for up to 90 days without a visa. All foreign nationals entering Japan, with the exemption of certain categories, are required to have their fingerprints scanned and a facial photograph taken at the port of entry. This requirement does not replace any existing visa or passport requirements. U.S. travelers on official business must have a diplomatic or official visa specifying the nature of travel as "AS DIPLOMAT," "AS OFFICIAL," or "IN TRANSIT" to be exempt from biometric collection. All other visa holders, including those with diplomatic and official visas stating "AS TEMPORARY VISITOR," are subject to this requirement. Passport type is also irrelevant. In rare instances, official travelers who bring a Note Verbale specifying they are entering Japan in an official capacity may be exempted from the biometric collection requirement, if otherwise required. SOFA personnel are exempt under SOFA Article 9 (2) from the new biometrics entry requirements.

Embassy Laptop Policy

¶6. (U) The Embassy's electronic device (i.e. laptop, removable storage, video equipment, test equipment, etc.) policy states that absolutely no personal, non-government owned electronic devices may enter the Embassy. Absolutely no equipment, even government-owned, may be connected to the Embassy network in any way without prior approval. TDY employees are reminded that even government-owned equipment may not enter the Embassy without prior RSO approval. Absolutely no electronic device, even government-owned, may enter the CAA unless special pre-approval is given by the RSO, based on a compelling business need. Please be advised that if the traveler does not have one of the following

BlackBerry models and a service contract with one of the telecommunications companies (listing follows), then his/her BlackBerry will not work in Japan. Japan has the most advanced cellular industry in the world and BlackBerry protocols are not as advanced as what are being used in Japan today. (BlackBerry models: 8707G, H, V or U.S. Telecommunications Companies with a NTT/DoCoMo roaming agreement: Sprint/Nextel, ATT/Cingular, and T-Mobile) If you would like to bring a U.S. government-owned electronic device into the Embassy, please contact the RSO office (provide make, model, serial number, and purpose) prior to your visit for a briefing and approval.

Threat Assessment

¶7. (U) U.S. Government facilities worldwide remain at a heightened state of alert. As the U.S. Government has reported in public announcements over the last several months, U.S. citizens and interests abroad may be at increased risk of terrorist actions from extremist groups, which may target civilians and include suicide operations. The Department maintains information about potential threats to Americans overseas which is available to travelers on the internet at the Bureau of Consular Affairs home page: <http://www.travel.state.gov>. The Embassy takes all threats seriously. U.S. Embassy Tokyo can be contacted 24 hours a day at 03-3224-5000 (locally) or 81-3-3224-5000 (internationally).

¶8. (SBU) The general threat from crime in Tokyo and throughout Japan is low. Crime is at levels well below the U.S. national average. Violent crime is rare, but does exist. The Japanese National Police report continued problems with pick-pocketing of foreigners in crowded shopping areas of Tokyo. Although street crime is low, common sense security measures are advised for all American citizens traveling in Japan.

¶9. (U) Also be advised that under no circumstances may weapons be brought into Japan. Carrying a pocketknife (including Swiss Army-style knife, craft or hunting knife, box cutter, etc.) in public is forbidden. Under Japanese law, carrying any such item in public, with a size exceeding 8 cm in length, 1.5 cm in width or 2 mm in thickness, can subject the person to arrest or detention.
SCHIEFFER